

Library overhaul: Dewey Decimal's gradual demise



Debris and confusion dominate the library

Photo-Riff

by Brad Rovnpera

The campus library is presently going through a major overhaul within its generous confines which is sure to elicit a unique blend of confusion and delight from students and faculty.

The first phase of the reorganization is ending this week with the completion of library offices on the sixth floor.

Library Director Frank Schneider estimated the process, which will be completed by summer, will cost approximately \$100,000.

The major changes that have already taken place include the relocation of all reference materials to the first floor and the moving of all general books to the second and third floors.

This reorganization was in the planning stages for a year and a half, Schneider said.

The primary physical changes constitute a move of all library offices from the first to the sixth floor, thereby allowing additional space on the first floor for the card catalogues.

Furniture once used in the sixth floor study areas will be distributed throughout the library, Schneider said.

Here is a brief rundown of the changes by floor:

- First floor—all reference services and reference faculty, college catalogues.
- Second floor—general books, bound periodicals, current periodicals, musical scores.
- Third floor—general books.

- Fourth floor—government documents.
- Fifth floor—curriculum library.
- Sixth floor—administrative offices.

Besides the relocation of books and offices, several safety measures have been added or refined, including new turnstiles, unbreakable glass windows and fire doors.

"We've changed the turnstiles in order to meet the needs of the disabled students," said Schneider. "It's in accord with their wishes."

The Xerox service has been moved into more spacious quarters on the first floor, allowing for more efficient service.

Despite the advantages of most of the changes, and precluding the initial confusion of students and faculty, one problem has been created by the overhaul which will undoubtedly cause a furor in the music department.

Approximately 20,000 musical scores, all subject to the new Library of Congress system of classification, have been moved to the second floor.

"This equals a hassle," said one library source who wished not to be identified. "It's certainly an inconvenience."

The problem is that music students will have to move back and forth between the second and third floors in order to get the scores for record listening.

"There is room on the third floor to put these scores," the source said. "They will inevitably be moved back as soon as the reclassification is over."

We know a lot of people don't like the situation."

The imminent extinction of the Dewey Decimal system of classification is more apparent now that over 100,000 general books have been switched over to the Library of Congress system (LC).

"Dewey will be out in three years," Schneider said. "The change-over process is in its second year, and it is on schedule."

The "new" system, which was devised in 1893, has already replaced the Dewey system in the other 18 state university and college libraries as a result of a ruling from the Chancellor's office.

"We are the last one to have changed over to LC," Schneider said.

Schneider, a 25-year veteran of library science, is very much in favor of the LC system because of its tremendous classifying flexibility.

"Dewey has become awfully cumbersome," he said.

Schneider said the LC system is not based on the Library of Congress Catalog Card Number found on the inside page of most books.

"The LC system is a combination of letters and numbers and, therefore, is expandable to infinity," he said.

The Dewey Decimal system, formulated in 1873 by Melvil Dewey, the pioneer of modern day library science, divides knowledge into 10 disciplines. Because it is restricted to only 10 groups, expansion of categories has become awkward and impractical.

For those who are overwhelmed by the new look in the library, fear not—the check-out system is still the same.

PHOENIX

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Tenure troubles college trustees

by Sharon Kato

The tenure system stands on shaky legs as a result of a trustees vote yesterday (Jan. 28) in support of a resolution that would weaken it within the California State University and Colleges (CSUC) system.

The resolution, approved by an 11 to 3 vote, recommends "that the concept of merit should be the paramount concern in the establishment of layoff policies and procedures." This recommendation could jeopardize the jobs of faculty members throughout the statewide CSUC system who were previously protected by tenure.

In effect, a senior professor whose classes were not drawing students could be laid off instead of a new instructor teaching a required course.

What worries the faculty even more is the possibility of people being let go ostensibly because of funding shortages but really because of their political beliefs.

Ann Uthman, SF State circulation librarian and the president of the local United Professors of California, called the resolution "absolutely outrageous" and "a serious threat to academic freedom."

"This has very serious implications. It means that any professor who is controversial academically or politically could lose their jobs. They can no longer take stands that aren't safe," said Uthman.

Honored semanticist: Dettering dead

The academic community mourns the recent death of Dr. Richard W. Dettering, professor emeritus of English and Education and an honored authority on semantics.

He died at his home on Jan. 18.

Dettering joined the faculty at SF State in 1952 after receiving a BA in English and Education from University of California at Berkeley. He earned his MA a year later from SF State and was a faculty member until his retirement in 1973.

He was awarded his doctorate from Stanford University in 1956, the product of which is considered one of the most authoritative statements on semantics and cultural relativity.

Dettering was a prolific writer and his work on semantics has been widely published and anthologized. He travelled extensively, lecturing throughout Europe, Russia, South America and the United States. He also travelled on a Fulbright lectureship in Chile.

Dettering served as president of the International Society for General Semantics in 1962-63 and was the director of the California Housing Initiative Committee.

Eric Solomon, head of the Academic Senate responded angrily to the trustees' vote.

"Once again the trustees have shown a remarkable capacity for being out of touch with reality and common sense," said Solomon.

"Secondly, the basic irrationality of this proposal is that it threatens the basis of academic freedom necessary to the intellectual survival of any academic institution," he said. "Since the same people who are empowered to make budget decisions will also make judgement distinctions, no member of the faculty will have the protection earned by his years of probation. Thus one's research as well as one's beliefs will be open to political attack."

Uthman charged that the administration could "hold back funds and then get rid of troublemakers." She planned to call an emergency meeting of the UPC to discuss the matter.

Solomon defended tenure saying "it is not job protection, it's a protection from being fired without cause."

The trustees will discuss the layoff procedures in May after soliciting suggestions from the Academic Senate, statewide student organizations and the college and university presidents.

SF State President Paul F. Romberg had not read the resolution, according to a spokesperson for his office.



Richard W. Dettering

Campus construction New elevators for disabled

by David Boitano

Work on several new construction projects has turned the normally placid S.F. State campus into a beehive of activity.

As students return to classes, three new projects are in various stages of completion, including five new elevators which are being built alongside the BSS, Science, Creative Arts, Design

Eviction battle resumes for Gatorville

by Pat Gerber

Gatorville goes to court today to oppose an attempted eviction by the administration, according to Tom Proulx, spokesperson for the Gatorville Association.

At issue is the attempted eviction of Natalie Clarkson, a graduate student in social science and a resident of Gatorville. The administration contends that last semester Clarkson was enrolled in only six units. To be eligible for residency in Gatorville the student is required to carry at least nine units.

Proulx said the university alleges it can evict residents anytime and "we allege that it's unconstitutional."

Clarkson is one of six residents who have faced eviction notices in the past on similar grounds of insufficient academic loads.

This is the latest development in a series of conflict between Gatorville residents to retain their housing and the administration's attempt to abolish married students housing on this campus, a trend that has developed on other campuses throughout the state.

Early last fall, Gatorville residents were the victims of a number of break-ins and alleged harassments by campus police.

On September 4, a Gatorville resident reported that a campus officer, after being admitted into her apartment, harassed her child and would not leave when asked. Campus police allege the officer was attempting to serve an eviction notice.

On September 22, a patrolling officer spotted lights and heard music from what was officially listed as an abandoned complex.

After failing to get a response from their demands for entry, the officers knocked out a lower panel of the apartment's door and entered through the opening. The occupants claim the officers questioned them and city police were finally called in. No action was taken and the incident was described as a mistake.

Presently, many of the apartments at Gatorville have been boarded up as the residents move out, although there is at least one family left in each building.

Clarkson is the only remaining tenant of the six original residents who were served eviction notices. (The other five had previously planned to move out.)

and Industry and Humanities buildings.

According to Campus Development Coordinator J. Dean Parnell, the elevators are being built to aid disabled students who have difficulty walking up and down stairs. The project is being financed through a combination of state and federal funds.

Most of the elevators will be of standard design consisting of a thirty-foot shaft connected to the side of the building with exits on all floors.

The BSS elevator will be different however. It will be housed in a free standing tower connected to the building through a series of short bridges.

Foundations are being laid for the new Student Health Service. When completed, the new building will be a maze of 40 rooms—double the size of the old building.

Though the majority of the rooms will be underground, Parnell says the building will allow most of the rooms sunlight from above ground.

"The building is being built below ground," he said, "but we don't want people to assume that it will be full of dark, gloomy rooms."

The building was built underground, he said, because the present location was too small to accommodate a larger building above ground.

An underground center will not hamper the flow of foot traffic from the parking lot, and once constructed, the building's roof will be covered with grass and used as an open space for students.

Students angry over sudden library layoff

by Jim Sullivan

The reorganization of the campus library during the semester break has left some of the 50 student workers hired for the change with a bitter feeling toward the library administration.

The apparent reason is a giant communication breakdown. Some of the workers were under the impression that work would last through January 28, so they were surprised on the morning of January 21 when they were told they could leave work at noon.

"Some of us thought we were getting off early for that day only," said Barbara, an employee who wished that only her first name be used.

"But there was no more work at all," she said.

"They said they ran out of money to pay us," said an employee who refused to be identified.

Library officials deny shortchanging the workers.

"The procedure was that the workers would be laid off when the money ran out or when the work was completed," said Library Director Frank Schneider.

"It just so happens that the money ran out when the work tailed off," he said.

The new center should be ready next semester.

All is not so well with the new administration building.

According to Parnell, the new building meets its original design specifications, but is inadequate to accommodate all the administrative groups that will be using it.

Plans for the new building were made 10 years ago, when the administration of then President John Summerskill utilized a smaller staff than President Paul F. Romberg does now.

Thus, when the blueprints were drawn up, walls and offices in the new building were designed to house this size staff and provide enough space for their administrative activities.

But the current administrative staff is much larger, and includes a host of new services, including affirmative action and Continuing Education, that didn't exist in Summerskill's day.

Parnell's solution is to ask Romberg and the Chancellor's office for more money to adapt the building to accommodate the needed services.

Campus planners have budgeted \$300,000 for the building's construction, but they need an additional \$100,000 for the modifications.

Romberg is expected to make a decision on further funding later this week.

If the requested changes are approved, the building will not be completed until next semester.

Some of the students also claim that the work procedure was unorganized.

"Three or four people were doing jobs one or two could do," said Paul, a worker who also requested that only his first name be used.

"It was hard to find what we were supposed to do next," said Barbara. "We devised our own system."

Schneider said the workers were trained on the job to do the moving, but admitted that in the state of confusion, they weren't used to their full work potential.

Some of the student employees who worked at the library during the fall semester as well as during the break were asked to return to work last Monday.

According to Barbara, they were asked to submit applications to Sheila Knights, periodicals librarian.

The workers didn't know if they would be rehired until yesterday (Jan. 28), when work hours were scheduled for them.

Schneider said the library had to wait for a budget report until last Friday at ten minutes to five, so couldn't hire anybody until then.



Photo-Martin Jeong

CAR jam

Once again, thousands of dismayed and disgusted students lined up outside the gym yesterday to attend the semi-annual Computer Assisted Registration (CAR) fracas known as the Problem Center. Despite the long lines, unseasonable weather kept the hopeful masses warm while percentage figures showed that CAR had successfully given 72 per cent of the students all their requested classes.

Although CAR's batting average is relatively high, it is certain that the Problem Center will continue to live up to its name for years to come.

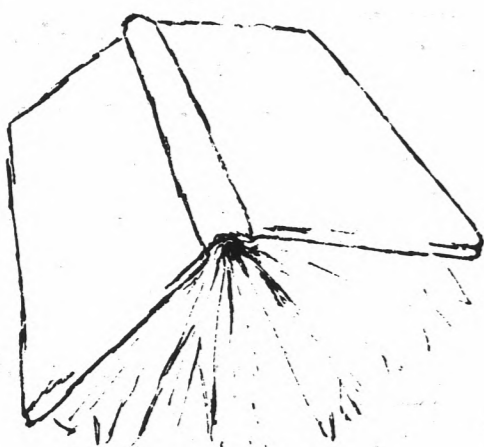
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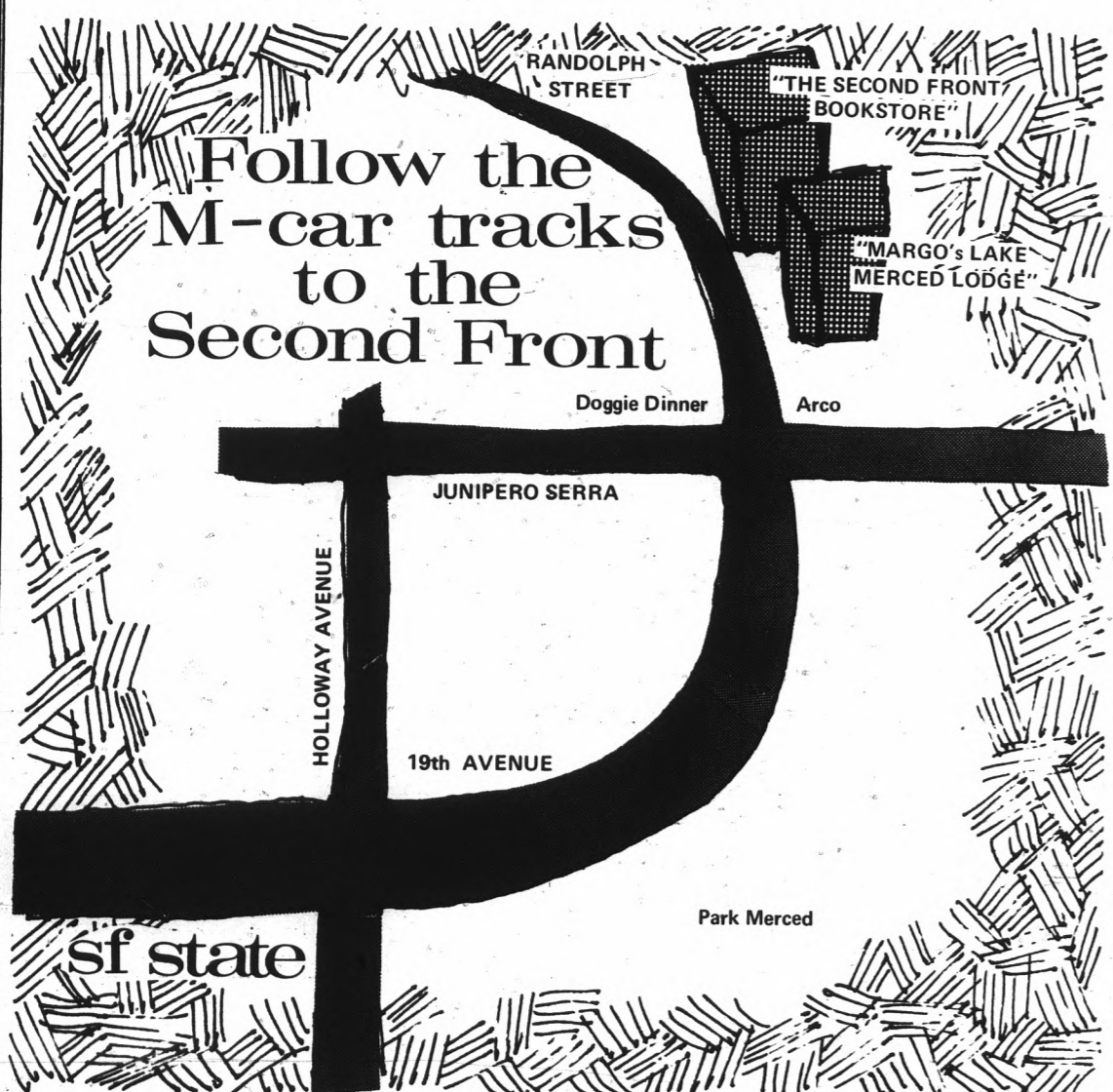
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Diana Higgins claims that clogged drains in the showers are common. Riff

Women's locker areas in unhealthy state

by Marshall Kido

Women students taking gym this semester face taking a shower in unhealthy conditions, according to Diana Higgins, stock clerk in the women's gym.

"The shower rooms could be kept up a lot better," she said, pointing to sediment and residue that has been building up since last semester.

"Whoever cleaned the place up did a lousy job. It's always like this," said Higgins. "The custodians just cleaned up sections and parts of this place."

Higgins stooped down, slid her hand on a brownish section of the floor, and raised her hand, now discolored with dust and dirt. "It's just terrible for a public place like this to be so dirty," she said.

Higgins said the showers last semester were so bad that hair left in the drains prevented the water from draining.

"The girls would sometimes stand in dirty water," she said. "Then there would be no soap in the dispensers, because the night custodians would forget to fill the main one up."

She then went to the showers, pushed the buttons on five dispensers, and only one worked.

"The place is pretty clean now," said Higgins, "but wait about four months and you'll find that the whole place is back to the condition it was last semester."

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Editorial

Five finger discount at students' expense

Phoenix: We see you're back, this semester, Mr. Sticky Fingers. Quite frankly, we had hoped that our illustrious and elusive, but ever present man about campus would not return this semester. Why did you return?

Sticky: Well, I had to get some money fast. And the beginning of the semester is always one of my most productive seasons here. There's a lot of money floating around. After all, everyone doesn't pay their fees by checks, some people are carrying around a lot of cash. And of course, there are always a lot of people who are lucky enough to get financial aid. You know how much cash that can mean.

Phoenix: Mr. Sticky Fingers, where were you yesterday morning at approximately 10:00? A Phoenix staffer's purse was ripped off. According to two eyewitnesses a black man, five foot ten, stocky, maybe 180 pounds, mustache curved around, light colored jacket and a beige or white watchcap, strolled into the Phoenix office, apparently put the purse under his jacket and strolled back out again. Two minutes later the purse was discovered to be missing.

Sticky: Hey listen, I gotta an airtight alibi. I was following this chick from the financial aid office down to the bank.

The person you're referring to could easily be mistaken for a janitor or maintenance man.

Phoenix: Mr. Sticky Fingers, why don't you apply for financial aid and go straight instead of stealing from students who probably have that money already allocated for rent, books or fees?

Sticky: I can't get financial aid because I'm not a student. Besides, I have a job. I'm a semi-professional. The nice thing about my job is that my money is tax free. I'm strictly into the big stuff. For example, I'm really fascinated with machinery.

Phoenix: I'm glad you mentioned machinery. Did you by any chance have anything to do with the disappearance of some tools from the Barbary coast restaurant? According to Joe Robinson, assistant director of facility operations, approximately \$400 worth of tools were stolen from the restaurant while the workers were on a lunch break.

Sticky: Hey Listen, you wanna story, I gotta story for you. The parking around this place is getting tighter and tighter. IF I had to make a quick get away, I'd probably have to walk at least five blocks to get to my car.

Phoenix: Have you considered moving your operations away from the campus, say maybe to the Federal Building?

Sticky: Are you crazy? The security around places like that is too tight. You students are easy targets. You are so careless and trusting. Besides, if we rip off enough purses, we're bound to hit the jackpot enough times to make it worth our while.

Phoenix: One last question, what about those tools?

Sticky: Sorry, time for me to split. I gotta go home and pack. I'm taking a little trip up to Reno this weekend.

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Announcements

All students interested in playing intercollegiate golf this semester should see Athletic Director Paul Rundell as soon as possible in Gym 205. Phone 469-2218.

On February 5th from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in Conference rooms A-F of the Student Union, the Women's Studies Committee will hold an Orientation Meeting introducing the new Women's Studies Program.

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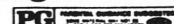
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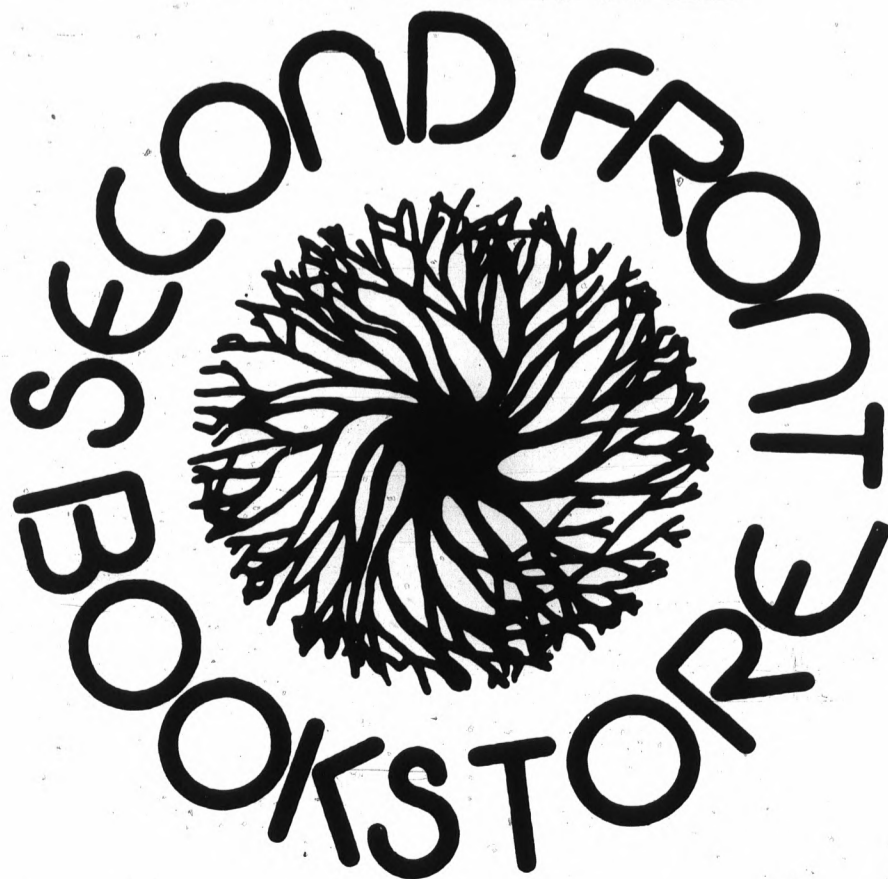
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